

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/AFN:STESCUERO:BAS

APPROVED BY: NEA/AFN:WSWEISLOGEL

NEA:EABINGTON

S/S-O:MTANNER

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R 280500Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USCINCEUR VAINGEN

S E C R E T STATE 049249

EXDIS, MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO RABAT, TEHRAN FROM  
AMMAN 230945Z FEB 76:

QUOTE S E C R E T AMMAN 0963

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR JO MO US IR

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE FOR MOROCCO

REF (A) AMMAN 0951, (B) RABAT 0938, (C) STATE 041786

1. PRIME MINISTER HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ME TWICE IN  
LAST 12 HOURS ON QUESTION OF MOROCCAN TRANSFER.

2. HE REPORTED TELEPHONE CALL FROM RABAT EVENING FEB 22 FROM  
MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR IN JORDAN WHO HAS RETURNED TO RABAT FOR  
CONSULTATIONS (REF ) AMBASSADOR TAZI TOLD RIFAI THAT  
AIRPLANES (F-5A) ARE URGENTLY NEEDED IN MOROCCO IN  
NEXT 48 HOURS. TAZI FURTHER ASSERTED THAT MOROCCO HAD  
DONE EVERYTHING REQUIRED BY US GOVERNMENT IN WAY OF

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ASSURANCES AND WAS REQUESTING IMMEDIATE TRANSFER OF  
AIRCRAFT.

3. RIFAI SAID HE ASKED ABOUT REPLACEMENTS. TAZI FIRST ASSERTED THAT FOR FROM THINKING OF REPLACEMENTS MOROCCO WAS COUNTING ON GETTING 10 ADDITIONAL F-5E'S RPT F-5E'S FROM JORDAN WHICH WERE ON ORDER FOR JORDAN IN OMING YEAR PROGRAMS. RIFAI SAID WHEN HE PULLED HIMSELF DOWN OFF THE CEILING AND STRAIGHTENED THE POSITION OUT TAZI THEN OFFERED TO BUY THE F-5 A FROM JORDAN. RIFAI SAID JORDAN WAS ENTIRELY UNINTERESTED SINCE THERW WAS ABSOLUTELY NO PLACE WHERE JORDAN COULD BUY REPLACEMENT F-5 AS. RIFAI SAID HE INSISTED ON ONE FOR ONE DEAL OR NOTHING.

4. RIFAI THEN ASKED ME WHAT ASSURANCES AND OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION MOROCCO HAD PROVIDED TO USG.

5. I SAID SUBJECT TO CHECK OF OUR RECORDS, MOROCCANS HAVE GIVEN US ASSURANCES THEY WOULD NOT TRANSFER IRANIAN HOWITZERS AND JORDANIAN 106MM RECILLESS RIFLES. THE QUESTION OF AIRCRAFT WAS IMPLIED BUT I WAS NOT SURE EXACTLY WHAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS IMPLICATION RATHER THAN SPECIFICATION OF NO TRANSFER AUTHORITY FOR F-5 A'S WOULD BE (PARA 1, REF B) FURTHER I REMINDED RIFAI THAT WE HAD JUST RECEIVED JORDAN'S LETTER REQUESTING TRANSFER AND THAT WE HAD CONGRESSIONAL PROCESS AS WELL TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH.

6. AFTER CHECK OF OUR FILES (0-4- 1 REF B) I RECONFIRMED THIS POINT TO RIFAI. HE SAID IN THE INTERIM HE HAD RECEIVED ANOTHER TELEPHONE CALL FROM MOROCCO AND THAT KING HASSAN WAS SENDING A SPECIAL ENVOY TO AMMAN TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION.

7. IN THE MEANTIME, RIFAI ASKED IF WE COULD CLARIFY FOR HIM AND THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF OUR EMBASSY IN RABAT FOR THE MOROCCANS WHETHER ANYTHING ADDITIONAL FROM THE MOROCCANS IS REQUIRED BY THE USG IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF 20 F-5 A'S FROM JORDAN. RIFAI DID NOT ASK, BUT MADE IT CLEAR TO ME THAT JORDAN WILL STILL INSIST ON WHAT IT

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CONSIDERS TO BE THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED REPLACEMENT ARRANGEMENT.

7. COMMENT: KING'S INITIAL BURST OF GENEROSITY IS RUNNING INTO PRESSURE FROM TWO SOURCES-- EXTREME UNHAPPINESS IN JORDAN'S AIR FORCE AND THREAT BY AIR FORCE COMMANDER TO RESIGN OVER THE LOSS OF TWO-THIRDS OF HIS F-5 AFLEET GARNERED AT GREAT EXPENDITURE OF A RATHER SEVERE MORALE PROBLEM AMONG JORDANIAN AIR FORCE PILOTS ON THE ONE HAND AND ON THE OTHER WHAT APPEARS

TO BE A GROWING REALIZATION IN MOROCCO THAT ONE FOR  
ONE REPLACEMENT OF F-5 A BY F-5 E IS A RATHER HEAVY  
PRICE TO PAY FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY OF THE F-5 A FROM  
JORDAN. INCIDENTALLY SOME OF THIS SEEMS ALREADY TO  
HAVE STRUCK THE KING AS WELL. RIFAI TELLS ME THAT IN  
ORDER TO MAINTAIN TRAINING AND READINESS OF HIS PILOTS  
SHOULD THE AIRCRAFT BE ACTUALLY TRANSFERRED HE IS  
CURRENTLY THINKING OF ASKING SAUDIS (AND POSSIBLY  
EVEN IRANIANS) TO STATION SOME F-5 A IN JORDAN. HE  
WOULD THEN ASK THAT HIS OWN PILOTS BE ABLE TO "GET  
TIME" ON THESE AIRPLANES TO KEEP UP THEIR TRAINING  
STATUS THIS IS JUST ANOTHER INDICATION OF THE JERRY  
BUILT NATURE OF THE EVOLVING JORDANIAN RESPONSE TO  
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MOROCCO. IN THIS CONNECTION WE  
WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A LATEST DATE FOR RIFAI ON  
PRESENT ALGERIAN-MOROCCAN SETTLEMENTS EFFORTS. WHILE  
WE WOULD HESITATE  
AT THIS POINT TO SUGGEST TO JORDAN THAT SOMETHING LESS THAN  
INITIAL DELIVERY OF ALL 20 F-5 A WOULD SUIT THEIR  
INTERESTS IN THE AREA, WE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED  
IN EMBASSY RABAT'S COMMENTS ON THE ABILITY OF THE  
MOROCCANS TO ABSORB AND USE 20-25 F-5 A ALMOST  
IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT THE CONCURRENT ARRIVAL OF ANY  
ADDITIONAL SPARE PARTS, AGE OR AVIATION MUNITIONS  
AT LEAST FROM JORDANIANS SOURCES. END COMMENT

8. ACTION REQUESTED. A RESPONSE TO RIFAI ON WHETHER  
WE ARE EXPECTING ANYTHING MORE FROM MOROCCO BY WAY  
OF ASSURANCES ON F-5 A AND WITH DEPARTMENT APPROVAL  
THE PASSAGE OF SIMILAR INFORMATION TO MOROCCANS IN  
A PARTIAL ANSWER TO THEIR REQUEST TO JORDANIANS TO  
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EXPEDITE THE MOVEMENT OF THE F-5A FROM JORDAN TO MOROCCO.  
PICKERING UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, AIR FORCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT LOANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE049249  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** NEA/AFN:STESCUDERO:BAS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760077-0045  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 76 AMMAN 951, 76 RABAT 938, 76 STATE 41786  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JUN 2004  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ASSISTANCE FOR MOROCCO  
**TAGS:** MASS, PFOR, JO, MO, US, IR  
**To:** USCINCEUR  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006